

PRESS RELEASE

Office of the United States Attorney
Middle District of Florida

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For Immediate Release

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FOUR SENTENCED FOR DEALING COCAINE AND CRACK COCAINE IN SARASOTA

Tampa, FL- U.S. District Judge James D. Moody, on December 12, 2003, sentenced four defendants, Clarence Jenkins, Calvin Turner, Damond Mills and Wanetta Parker, for their involvement in an organization that was distributing cocaine and crack cocaine in Sarasota, Florida. Clarence Jenkins was sentenced to 262 months imprisonment; Calvin Turner was sentenced to 210 months imprisonment; Damond Mills was sentenced to 87 months imprisonment; and Wanetta Parker was sentenced to 84 months imprisonment for conspiring to distribute cocaine and crack cocaine.

Clarence Jenkins, Calvin Turner, and Damond Mills each pled guilty to the charge on September 3, 2003, and Wanetta Parker pled guilty on September 4, 2003.

According to court documents, the four are the first to be sentenced out of a group of fourteen who were indicted on conspiracy charges to distribute cocaine and crack cocaine in Sarasota. The indictment was the result of a joint investigation between the Sarasota Police Department and the Drug Enforcement Administration. The investigation,

entitled Operation "One-Drop," was a three year investigation that revealed an organization bringing in several kilograms of cocaine from the Miami area to the Newtown Community in Sarasota. The powder cocaine was then cooked into crack cocaine and then distributed in the Sarasota area. During the investigation numerous undercover buys were made for both powder and crack cocaine. At the conclusion of the investigation law enforcement seized property located at 13752 Northwest 16th Street, Pembroke Pines, Florida; more than \$125,000 in U.S. currency; over a kilogram of powder cocaine; and more than 50 grams of crack cocaine.

On Monday, December 22, 2003, three other defendants, Patrick Lavender, Kelvin Turner, and Cedric White, are scheduled to be sentenced before Judge Moody, and on Friday, January 16, 2003, three more defendants, Kenith Turner, Troy Tasher, and Joslyn Walker, are scheduled to be sentenced before Judge Moody.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Anthony E. Porcelli.

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